JOSHUA SUSSMAN ALPHA CO. MISSOURI MILITARY ACADEMY MEXICO, MISSOURI 65265

MARSHALL W. NIRENBERG

I AM A 17 YEAR OLD CADET AT THE MISSOURI MILITARY ACADEMY IN MEXICO, MISSOURI.

I'M WRITING TO YOU AS A MATTER OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO BOTH MY DAD AND MYSELF.

MY DAD IS AN ARDENT STUDENT OF HISTORY. HIS BEING AN INVALID HAS CREATED THE NEED FOR OTHER OUTLETS. HISTORY IS HIS PRIMARY INTEREST. MANY EVENINGS THE TWO OF US SIT AND DISCUSS HISTORICAL EVENTS. AT TIMES WE DISAGREE.

I KNOW OF DADS ADMIRATION FOR YOU AND I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HELP SETTLE AN ARGUMENT THAT WE HAVE PURSUED OVER A YEAR NOW.

I AM OF THE BELIEF THAT WARS HAVE FAILED AS AN EXTENSION OF NATIONAL POLITICS. I BELIEVE THAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COUNTRIES CAN BE SOLVED BY DIPLOMACY. I BELIEVE THAT MASSIVE KILLINGS OF ARMIES AND CIVILIANS HAS CREATED A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT THAT MAY ULTIMATELY LEAD TO THE DESTRUCTION OF MANKIND! WHAT IS THE ANSWER WHEN WARS NO LONGER WORK? HOW CAN WE SOLVE CONFLICT WITHOUT VIOLENCE? MY DAD FEELS THAT THERE WILL ALWAYS BE WARS BECAUSE OF HISTORICAL DIFFERENCES IN LANGUAGE, BOUNDRIES, RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, POPULATION EXPLOSIONS, ETC. HE BELIEVES THAT STRENGTH COMES FROM MILITARY PREPARADNESS. YET, GENERAL DOUGLAS MCARTHUR, ONE OF OUR NATIONS GREATEST GENERALS AND STRATIGISTS, IN A SPEECH GIVEN TO THE AMERICAN LEGION IN ST. LOUIS IN 1955 SAID, "THE NEXT GREAT ADVANCE IN THE EVOLUTION OF CIVILIZATION CANNOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL WAR IS ABOLISHED."

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS? IS DAD RIGHT BY SAYING THERE WILL ALWAYS BE WARS OR AM I RIGHT BY MY CONVICTION THAT ANIMOSITIES BETWEEN COUNTRIES CAN BE NEGOTIATED?

WE BOTH WOULD VALUE YOUR OPINION AND WOULD BE MOST GREATFUL FOR YOUR KINDEST HELP!

SINCERELY

MAR 20 1989